

On the evening of 8 February when the nestling was just over eighty days it flew from the hollow. It was found next morning on the floor of the aviary with one leg paralysed. The fledgling may have hit its head on the aviary side and suffered concussion.

The fledgling was left on the ground and the parents spent their time sitting on the ground near it and continued to feed it on the ground. The fledgling remained on the ground until mid-March, during which time, its leg became more usable. About mid-March it started flying round the aviary and perched on the tree or on the cage floor. It had a lot of trouble landing due to its inexperience, but it gradually mastered the art of landing gently instead of flying full speed at the perch and crashing into it.

By the end of April it could fly very well and it had completely regained the use of its previously paralysed leg. Although it was feeding itself, it still begged continuously from its parents. This is not surprising as fledglings in the wild are dependent on their parents for several months after leaving the nest hollow.

During the breeding season the birds were given sunflower seed, mature marri (*Eucalyptus calophylla*) nuts, *Banksia grandis* fruits and *Pinus pinaster* cones. The adults fed the nestling sunflower seed most of the time, although they occasionally gave it small amounts of the other foods.

This is the only published record, of which I am aware, of White-tailed Black Cockatoos fledging young in captivity. Forshaw (1969) says "he understands . . . the White-tailed Black Cockatoo has recently been bred" but gives no details. Lendon (1973) on the other hand says he has "never heard of a successful breeding".

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CLADOPHORA, EUTROPHICATION AND THE PEEL INLET

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In many rivers and lakes large growths of *Cladophora* are associated with nutrient-rich waters and can be said to be indicative of eutrophication (Pitcairn and Hawkes, 1973). The natural enrichment of a body of water, leading to a rise in the level of available nutrients, such as nitrogen and phosphorus is known as eutrophication. Man often speeds up this process by polluting waters. Enormous accumulations of rotting algae build up in certain bays (e.g. Coodanup) of the Peel Inlet. The dominant species is commonly called 'Goat-Weed,' a species of *Cladophora* existing as dark green balls 1-3 cm in diameter. Associated with these balls, as a bright green surface mat, are an intertwined mixture of filamentous species of *Enteromorpha* and *Cladophora*. These mats are sometimes trapped over offshore beds of *Ruppia maritima*. In a few parts of the estuary large patches of *Chaetomorpha linum* are hazardous to boating.

Cladophora balls grow and accumulate in large offshore beds in water from 1 to 2.5 m deep. In summer, the algae rise from thick bottom patches, float near the surface of the water and then fall to the bottom. This cyclic pattern is probably caused by evolved gas being trapped between the filaments.

During spring and summer, presumably when *Cladophora* is actively growing, the balls begin to accumulate on the shore of the Peel Inlet due to the action of water movement and onshore winds. In this manner, extensive accumulations may build up, for example, in the mouth of the Murray River and extend a short distance upstream.

Cross (1974) reports that after the late 1950's in a period of lower than average rainfall, a noticeable change occurred in the Peel Inlet and

several species of algae, including *Cladophora* and *Enteromorpha* became established. These algae are reported to break away and form raft-like masses which accumulate along the shore of the estuary where they decay, releasing hydrogen sulphide and depleting oxygen levels in the water. Reports by Rippingale (1974, 1975) to the Metropolitan Water Supply, Sewerage and Drainage Board supported the claim made by Cross that *Cladophora* has increased in recent years in response to a hypothetical increase in eutrophication resulting from outside enrichment of the estuarine waters.

No comparable information is available on *Cladophora* elsewhere in Australia, though it has been reported as a nuisance in the Swan River Estuary (Royce, 1955). The lack of data suggests that *Cladophora* does not form large algal mats in other Australian estuaries. In Eastern Australia and New Zealand nuisance weed growth is more commonly due to aquatic angiosperms than to algae. Comparisons for *Cladophora* growth in the Peel Inlet must, therefore, be sought in the northern hemisphere. There *Cladophora* has been shown to respond to eutrophication. It is capable of rapid colonization of bare surfaces and of extremely rapid growth. Many species are favoured by high light intensities, high nutrient levels, high pH values, hard and turbulent waters (e.g. Whitton, 1970; Piteairn and Hawkes, 1973). Productivity is governed by a natural annual rhythm of the alga interacting with environmental factors.

It is difficult to evaluate the factors affecting *Cladophora* in the Peel Inlet because there are no data available on a similar species of *Cladophora* in a similar estuary elsewhere. In order to predict control measures for *Cladophora* in the Peel Inlet we need to determine the status of the major benthic species.

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FROM FIELD AND STUDY

Galahs and Little Corellas in the Claremont/Cottesloe Area.—On April 21, 1974, in the vicinity of my home at 82 Railway Street, Cottesloe, a flock of 12 Galahs (*Cacatua roseicapilla*) was sighted. At the final preparation of this note (April 1976) the birds were still in the area and had increased to about 30.

On April 23, at the Teachers' Training College, Princess Road, Claremont, a flock of about 100 Corellas was sighted flying over the college toward the north. The birds were identified as Little Corellas (*Cacatua sanguinea*).

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